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IN THE UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Armin REIMANN et al.

International Application No. No. PCT/EP2003/011830

Filed: 24 October 2003

For: TWO-STEP MIXING PROCESS FOR PRODUCING

AN ABSORBENT POLYMER

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the application and calculation of the filing fees. If any fees in addition to those accompanying the attached application are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-2190.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.